

# Seattle Fire Marshal's Office

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## New Systems Testing (Confidence Testing) Reporting Program in 2017

In mid-2017, the Seattle Fire Department (SFD) will implement a systems testing oversight program or “confidence testing” reporting program. Fire protection systems including fire alarms and sprinklers are among the most important components in any building with regards to preserving lives, protecting property, and enhancing firefighter safety. SFD will contract with a private company to track and drive code compliance, reduce false alarms, and provide a safer city through third party inspection reporting and maintenance. Bellevue, Mercer Island, Shoreline, and Redmond are also implementing the same program with the same vendor; their implementation date is January 1, 2017. Here are some important facts about the program in Seattle:

- Systems test reports for tests of fire protection systems conducted within Seattle as included in Table 1 below will be required to be sent to SFD electronically via SFD’s third party vendor.
- Companies employing certified technicians will be required register and utilize the third party vendor’s single point repository service to file test reports to be accessed and reviewed by SFD.
- There will no changes to the mandatory notification process for “red tagged” systems – technicians or impairment coordinators must still call the hotline and submit the impairment notification form to SFD immediately.
- SFD will host outreach meetings for systems testing companies early in 2017 to provide more information and training. Invitations will be sent to all companies who employ SFD-certified technicians. Please check our website or contact Karen Grove at [Karen.Grove@seattle.gov](mailto:Karen.Grove@seattle.gov) if you would like more information.
- There is a report filing fee of \$30 per report. Multiple systems of the same type may be combined on one report. For example, tests related to four standpipes in the same building can all be submitted on one report for one \$30 fee. The fee will offset the cost of hiring a dedicated Systems Testing Lieutenant to support the program and customers.

**Table 1: Systems Test Reports Requiring Submittal to the Seattle Fire Department**

Fire Protection System Type	Code/Standard	Frequency of Test to SFD
Alternative Extinguishing Systems (CO <sup>2</sup> , clean agent, dry chem)	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Annual
Automatic Sprinkler Systems	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Annual
Emergency Alarm Systems (Haz Mat)	Seattle Fire Code 5003.2.9	Annual
Emergency Generators	Seattle Fire Code 604.3	Annual
Fire Alarm Systems	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Annual
Fire Escapes	Seattle Fire Code 1104.16.5.1 SFD Admin Rule 11.01.14	Every five years
Fire Pumps	Seattle Fire Code 913.5 NFPA 25 Chapter 8	Annual
Rangehood	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Every six months
Smoke Control Systems	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Annual
Standpipe Systems	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Every five years
Standpipe Systems – Marinas	Seattle Fire Code 901.6	Annual

**For more information,** see Administrative Rule 9.02.17 at <http://www.seattle.gov/fire/FMO/firecode/adminRules.htm> or call our office at 206-386-1450 and email our office at [SFD\\_FMO\\_SystemsTesting@seattle.gov](mailto:SFD_FMO_SystemsTesting@seattle.gov). Thank you for your business and we wish you a safe and successful 2017.